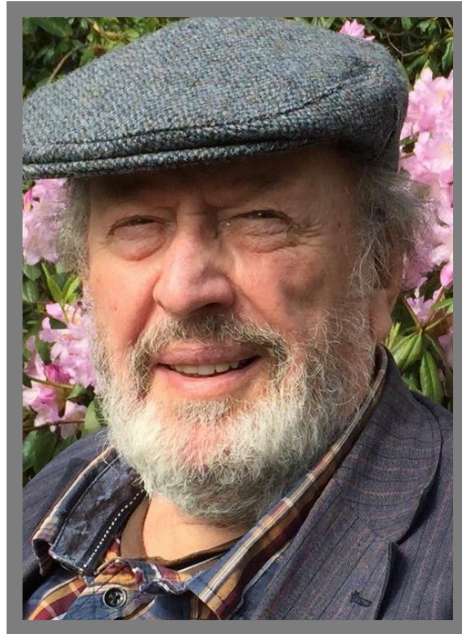


Ceremony and Thanksgiving for the life of

Sean O'Connell

15th October 1940 - 25th March 2020



West London Crematorium,
Harrow Road, Kensal Green, London W10 4RA

Thursday 9th April 2020 at 3.45pm

Music:

In My Life

The Beatles

Words of Welcome:

Celebrant: Carrie Thomas

Reading:

Read By Siobhan O'Connell

The Thought Fox

I imagine this midnight moment's forest:
Something else is alive
Beside the clock's loneliness
And this blank page where my fingers move.

Through the window I see no star:
Something more near
Though deeper within darkness
Is entering the loneliness:

Cold, delicately as the dark snow
A fox's nose touches twig, leaf;
Two eyes serve a movement, that now
And again now, and now, and now

Sets neat prints into the snow
Between trees, and warily a lame
Shadow lags by stump and in hollow
Of a body that is bold to come

Across clearings, an eye,
A widening deepening greenness,
Brilliantly, concentratedly,
Coming about its own business

Till, with a sudden sharp hot stink of fox,
It enters the dark hole of the head.
The window is starless still; the clock ticks,
The page is printed.

Ted Hughes

A Tribute and Moment of Reflection:

Carrie Thomas

Nocturne in B flat minor, Opus 9, No. 1

Chopin, Played by Arthur Rubenstein

Reading:

Read by Siobhan O'Connell

Fear No More the Heat o' the Sun (from Cymbeline)

Fear no more the heat o' the sun,
Nor the furious winter's rages;
Thou thy worldly task hast done,
Home art gone, and ta'en thy wages:
Golden lads and girls all must,
As chimney-sweepers, come to dust.

Fear no more the frown o' the great;
Thou art past the tyrant's stroke;
Care no more to clothe and eat;
To thee the reed is as the oak:
The sceptre, learning, physic, must
All follow this, and come to dust.

William Shakespeare

Blessing:

"May his soul rest in peace at the right hand of God"

Mary Baylis

Committal

Closing Words

Music:

Every Time We Say Goodbye
Ella Fitzgerald



Prayer for Sean:

Lord Jesus, our Redeemer,
you willingly gave yourself up to death,
so that all might be saved and pass from death to life.
We humbly ask you to comfort your servants in their grief
and to receive Sean into the arms of your mercy.
You alone are the Holy One,
you are mercy itself:
by dying you unlocked the gates of life
for those who believe in you.
Forgive Sean his sins,
and grant him a place of happiness, light, and peace
in the kingdom of your glory for ever.

Amen.

Father Pat Ryall

If you would like to make a donation in memory of Sean, please contact:

St John's Wood Hospice,
60 Grove End Road,
St John's Wood,
London
NW8 9NH

020 7806 4040
hospice.info@hje.org.uk
<https://www.stjohnshospice.org.uk>

Ceremony conducted by Carrie Thomas carrie.thomas@humanistceremonies.co.uk

07972 051 429 Accredited to conduct funerals by  Humanists UK

Funeral Directors: J. H. Kenyon, 74 Rochester Row, Westminster, London SW1P 1JU